

REMARKS

The office action of October 14, 2010, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over FR 2833662 to Rovira in view of applicant's admitted prior art.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references, applicant points out that Rovira is not prior art to the present application. Rovira has a reference date of June 20, 2003, whereas the present application has a priority date of December 19, 2002. A verified translation of the priority application DE 102 60 076.7 is attached. Thus, Rovira is not prior art to the present application.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the above-discussed references is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Applicant points out that a verified translation of the priority document was previously submitted in this application on June 10, 2009, to overcome the same French reference.

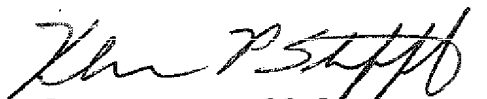
Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

  
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By:

  
Klaus P. Stoffel

Date: January 11, 2011